

ITS Technical Bulletin 205

KEYWORD FOR TAPE RETENTION DATES FOR 1998 AND 1999

Issued Date: Jan 18, 1995
Effective Date: Oct 16, 1994
Section/Groups: Systems Support
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The tape management system, CA-1, used at the State's computer center provides special keywords that can be used in IBM JCL for tape retention. Certain keywords have had special meaning to CA-1 when used with the LABEL parameter in IBM JCL.

The current CA-1 tape retention keywords are defined as follows:

98ddd Days Since Last Used Control EXPDT keyword. This specifies that a tape data set is held as long as it is used every ddd days. ddd may be any value between 001 and 366. As long as the tape data set is being utilized at least as frequently as every ddd days, it is protected. When the data set has not used within ddd days, it becomes eligible for scratch. This is an excellent means of controlling tapes used for testing.

99000 Catalog Control EXPDT keyword. This specifies that a tape data set is protected as long as it has an entry in the system catalog. As soon as CA-1 determines that the data set no longer has an entry in the system catalog, it becomes eligible for scratch. 99000 is frequently used for generation data groups.

99ccc Cycle Control EXPDT keyword. Specifies that ccc cycles of a data set are to be held. This retention is based entirely on the number of cycles to be maintained in the TMC. Cycle Control can be used for simple data sets and generation data groups. For GDGs, the number of tapes retained by CA-1 does not necessarily need to equal the number of MVS catalog entries. The definition of a CA-1 cycle is determined by CA-1 system options.

Following is a sample using the CA-1 tape retention keywords as they are currently defined. In this sample the job will create a tape that expects CA-1 to define a retention date of 10 days since the tape was last used.

```
//STEP1 EXEC PGM=NEWTAPE
//DD1      DD DSN=MY.NEWTAPE,DISP=(,CATLG),UNIT=TAPE,
//          LABEL=(EXPDT=98010)
```

As we approach the year 1998 and 1999 these keywords, as currently defined, will conflict with an actual retention date you may wish to code. CA-1 now provides a method which allows you to specify an actual expiration date that falls within 1998 and 1999. This is done by placing a special DD statement, //TMNOKEY DD DUMMY, in the job step that requires a 1998 or 1999

expiration date.

The special DD statement is used in the following sample JCL. This job step will create a tape that expects CA-1 to define a retention date of January 10, 1998. Note the placement of the special DD statement.

```
//STEP1 EXEC PGM=NEWTAPE
//DD1      DD DSN=MY.NEWTAPE,DISP=(,CATLG),UNIT=TAPE,
//          LABEL=(EXPDT=98010)
//TMNOKEY DD DUMMY
```